

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : Ronald A. Katz
SERIAL NO. : 07/803,269
FILED : December 3, 1991
FOR : TELEPHONIC-INTERFACE
STATISTICAL ANALYSIS
SYSTEM
DOCKET NO. : 4646-101NA

Examiner:

Art Unit: 2601 3-4-92

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SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

February 28, 1992

707 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 3200
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please further amend as follows the above-identified patent application which is a divisional (inadvertently referred to as a continuation in the preliminary amendment filed on December 3, 1991) of Application Serial No. 07/640,337 filed on January 11, 1991:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 36 and 40 and add new Claims 43-73.

- 1 8/26. (Amended) A controlled interface system in
2 accordance with claim 35 wherein said caller billing structure
3 [pays to dial] bills pay-to-dial caller billing data.

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1 102 648.00 CK
1 103 500.00 CK

1 13⁴⁰. (Amended) A controlled interface system in
2 accordance with claim ²⁹~~29~~ wherein at least [one] certain of
3 said terminal-formed signals comprise caller billing
4 identification data.

Please add the following new Claims 43-73:

1 143. ~~A controlled interface system in accordance~~
2 with claim ~~29~~ ~~said format associated with said audio~~
3 broadcast utilizes an "800" toll free service.~~b~~

1 15
2 144. A controlled interface system in accordance
3 with claim ²⁹~~29~~ wherein said controlled interface system
4 receives calls for a plurality of different numbers.~~b~~

1 16
2 145. A controlled interface system in accordance
3 with claim ¹⁵~~44~~ wherein said plurality of called numbers are
4 controlled by DNIS~~a~~.

1 17
2 146. A controlled interface system in accordance
3 with claim ¹⁶~~45~~ wherein each of said plurality of called numbers
4 is indicative of a particular geographic area.~~b~~

1 18
2 147. A controlled interface system in accordance
3 with claim ²⁹~~29~~ wherein said format associated with said audio
4 broadcast utilizes means for actuating said audio broadcast

5 from a source thereof, thereby interconnecting said individual
6 callers to said audio broadcast. ¹⁹
~~1~~

1 ¹⁹
~~2~~ 18. A controlled interface system in accordance
2 with claim ¹⁷ wherein said callers provide digital data in
3 response to receiving audio instructions from said audio
4 broadcast. ²⁰

1 ²⁰
~~2~~ 19. A controlled interface system in accordance
2 with claim ²⁹ wherein said audio broadcast accommodates
3 individual callers using a pay-to-dial number. ²¹

1 ²¹
~~2~~ 20. A controlled interface system in accordance
2 with claim ²⁹ further comprising a command computer terminal
3 for controlling intervals for said individual callers to
4 provide digital data during said broadcast. ²²
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Cont'd

1 ²²
~~2~~ 21. A controlled interface system in accordance
2 with claim ³⁸ further comprising qualifying means for
3 qualifying individual digital identifying data entered by the
4 public, prior to participation. ²³

1 ²⁴ b
2 E3
3
4 252. An analysis control system for use with a
communication facility including remote terminals for
individual callers, wherein each of said remote terminals may
comprise a conventional telephone instrument including voice

5 communication means, and digital input means in the form of an
6 array of alphabetic numeric buttons for providing data, said
7 analysis control system comprising:

8 an interface structure coupled to said communication
9 facility to interface said remote terminals for voice and
10 digital communication, and including means to provide caller
11 data signals representative of data relating to said
12 individual callers developed by said remote terminals;

13 voice generator structure coupled through said
14 interface structure for actuating said remote terminals as to
15 provide vocal operating instructions to said individual
16 callers;

17 record structure, including memory and control
18 means, connected to receive said caller data signals from said
19 interface structure for initiating a file and storing digital
20 caller data relating to said individual callers provided from
21 said digital input means through ~~said~~ interface structure; and

22 qualification structure controlled by said record
23 structure for testing caller data signals provided by said
24 individual callers to specify a consumable participation key
25 for restricting the extent of access to said system by said
26 individual callers to limit data stored for said individual
27 callers on the basis of entitlement.

1 24
2 23
3 453. A system according to claim 52 wherein said
4 record structure records identification data for each specific

3 individual caller including said individual caller's social
4 security number.⁴

1 ²⁵
2 ~~454.~~ A system according to claim ²³~~52~~ wherein said
3 qualification structure includes check-off means for
4 restricting said extent of access by said individual callers
to a specific number of accesses.⁴

1 ²⁶
2 ~~455.~~ A system according to claim ²³~~52~~ wherein said
3 qualification structure restricts said extent of access by
each of said individual callers to a single use entitlement.⁴

1 ²⁷
2 ~~456.~~ A system according to claim ²⁶~~55~~ wherein said
3 qualification structure restricts said individual callers in a
pay-to-dial calling mode.⁴

1 ²⁸
2 ~~457.~~ A system according to claim ²³~~55~~ wherein said
3 qualification structure restricts said individual callers in a
~~4800"~~ toll free calling mode.⁴

1 ²³
2 ~~458.~~ A system according to claim ²³~~52~~ wherein said
3 memory of said record structure is controlled by said control
4 means to store identification data for each specific one of
5 said individual callers including data developed by said
communication facility.⁴

29

1 ~~459.~~ A system according to claim ~~58~~ wherein said
2 record structure includes means for storing representations of
3 telephone numbers of each of said remote terminals used by
4 each of said individual callers.~~28~~

31

1 ~~460.~~ An analysis control system for use with a
2 communication facility including remote terminals for
3 individual callers, wherein each of said remote terminals may
4 comprise a conventional telephone instrument including voice
5 communication means, and digital input means in the form of an
6 array of alphabetic numeric buttons for providing data, said
7 analysis control system comprising:

8 an interface structure coupled to said communication
9 facility to interface each of said remote terminals for voice
10 and digital communication, and including means to provide
11 caller data signals representative of data relating to said
12 individual callers developed by said remote terminals;

13 voice generator structure coupled through said
14 interface structure for actuating each of said remote
15 terminals as to provide vocal operating instructions to each
16 of said individual callers;

17 record structure, including memory and control
18 means, connected to receive said caller data signals from said
19 interface structure for initiating a file and storing digital
20 caller data relating to said individual callers provided from
21 said digital input means through said interface structure; and

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22 designation structure coupled to said interface
23 structure and said record structure for developing individual
24 designations for said individual callers, indicative of caller
25 significance, and storing said designations in said record
26 structure. ¹⁴

1 ³⁰ ~~1~~ 61. A system according to claim ²⁸ ~~56~~ further
2 including acknowledgement means for confirming caller
3 designations as provided to said individual callers. ¹⁴

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~~1 62. An analysis control system for use with a communication facility including remote terminals for individual callers, wherein each of said remote terminals may comprise a conventional telephone instrument including voice communication means and digital input means in the form of an array of alphabetic numeric buttons for providing data and wherein said communication facility has a capability to provide terminal digital data, for example, indicating the calling number, said analysis control system comprising:~~

10 interface structure coupled to said communication
11 facility to interface each of said remote terminals for voice
12 and digital communication, and including means to provide
13 signals representative of data developed by said remote
14 terminals and said terminal digital data;

15 voice generator structure coupled through said
16 interface structure for actuating said remote terminals as to

17 provide vocal operation instructions to said individual
18 callers;
19 record structure, including memory and control
20 means, connected to said interface structure for initiating a
21 file and storing data relating to certain select ones of said
22 individual callers in accordance with said terminal digital
23 data;
24 qualification structure controlled by said record
25 structure for restricting the extent of access to said system
26 by said individual callers; and
27 designation structure coupled to said interface
28 structure and said record structure for assigning individual
29 designations to said individual callers and storing said
30 designations in said record structure.

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cont'd

1 b63. An analysis control system for use with a
2 communication facility including remote terminals for
3 individual callers, wherein each of said remote terminals may
4 comprise a conventional telephone instrument including voice
5 communication means, and digital input means in the form of an
6 array of alphabetic numeric buttons for providing data, said
7 analysis control system comprising:
8 interface structure coupled to said communication
9 facility to interface each of said remote terminals for voice
10 and digital communication, and including means to provide

11 caller data signals representative of data relating to each of
12 said individual callers developed by said remote terminals;
13 record structure, including memory and control
14 means, connected to receive said caller data signals from said
15 interface structure for initiating a file and storing caller
16 data relating to certain select ones of said individual
17 callers, said record structure including means for recording a
18 telephone identification number for each of said remote
19 terminals as used by each respective one of said individual
20 callers; and

21 qualification structure controlled by said record
22 structure for testing caller ~~data~~ signals provided by each of
23 said individual callers to specify a consumable participation
24 key for restricting the extent of access to said system by
25 said individual callers to limit data stored for each
26 individual caller on the basis of entitlement.✓

34
~~34~~ 64. A system according to claim ~~63~~ wherein said
record structure further includes means for recording signals
representative of any of the following: name, address or
physical characteristics.✓

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35
~~35~~ 65. A system according to claim ~~63~~ further
including means for collectively processing data developed
from said remote terminals as a result of the action of
multiple individual callers.✓

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1 766. An analysis control system for use with a
2 communication facility including remote terminals for
3 individual callers, wherein each of said remote terminals may
4 comprise a conventional telephone instrument including voice
5 communication means, and digital input means in the form of an
6 array of alphabetic numeric buttons for providing data, said
7 analysis control system comprising:

8 an interface structure coupled to said communication
9 facility to interface said remote terminals for voice and
10 digital communication and including means to provide answer
11 data signals and identification data signals representative of
12 data relating to said individual callers developed by said
13 remote terminals;

14 voice generator structure coupled through said
15 interface means for actuating said remote terminals as to
16 provide vocal operating instructions to each of said
17 individual callers;

18 record structure, including memory and control
19 means, for storing answer data signals and identification data
20 signals for specific individual callers including
21 representations of the telephone number of a respective one of
22 said remote terminals used by one of said individual callers;

23 designation structure coupled to said interface
24 structure and said record structure for developing individual
25 designations for said individual callers and storing said
26 designations in said record structure; and

27 acknowledgement means for confirming caller designa-
28 tions as provided to said individual callers.

1 ~~*467. A system according to claim 58 further~~
2 Sub E 6 including qualification structure controlled by said record
3 structure for restricting the extent of access to said system
4 to select certain of said individual callers having a valid
5 consumable participation key.

1 38
2 ~~*468. An analysis control system for use with a~~
3 communication facility including remote terminals for
4 individual callers, wherein said remote terminals may comprise
5 a conventional telephone instrument including voice
6 communication means, and digital input means in the form of an
7 array of alphabetic numeric buttons for providing data, said
8 analysis control system comprising:
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10 an interface structure coupled to said communication
11 facility to interface said remote terminals for voice and
12 digital communication, and including means to provide caller
13 data signals representative of data relating to said
14 individual callers developed by said remote terminals;
15 voice generator structure coupled through said
16 interface structure for actuating said remote terminals as to
provide vocal operating instructions to said individual
callers;

17 record structure, including memory and control
18 means, connected to receive said caller data signals from said
19 interface structure for initiating a file and storing digital
20 data relating to said individual callers provided from said
21 digital input means through said interface structure to store
22 designations of said individual callers including
23 representations indicative of the calling order sequence of
24 said individual callers; and

25 qualification structure controlled by said record
26 structure for restricting the extent of access to said system
27 by said individual callers.

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W69. An analysis control system for use with a
communication facility including remote terminals for
individual callers, wherein each of said remote terminals may
comprise a conventional telephone instrument including voice
communication means, and digital input means in the form of an
array of alphabetic numeric buttons for providing data, said
analysis control system comprising:

8 an interface structure coupled to said communication
9 facility to interface said remote terminals for voice and
10 digital communication, and including means to provide answer
11 data signals and identification data signals representative of
12 data relating to said individual callers developed at said
13 remote terminals;

14 voice generator structure coupled through said
15 interface means for actuating said remote terminals as to
16 provide vocal operating instructions to said individual
17 callers;

18 record structure, including memory and control
19 means, for storing answer data signals and identification data
20 signals for specific individual callers including
21 identification data in the form of each specific individual
22 caller's telephone number and birth date;

23 designation structure coupled to said interface
24 structure and said record structure for developing individual
25 designations for said individual callers and storing said
26 designations in said record structure; and

27 acknowledgement means for confirming caller designa-
28 tions as provided to said individual callers.⁶⁰

8 an interface structure coupled to said communication
9 facility to interface said remote terminals for voice and
10 digital communication, and including means to provide caller

11 data signals representative of data relating to said callers
12 developed by said remote terminals;
13 voice generator structure coupled through said
14 interface means for actuating said remote terminals as to
15 provide vocal operating instructions to one of said individual
16 callers;
17 record structure, including memory and control
18 means, for storing answer data signals and identification data
19 signals for specific individual callers including each
20 specific caller's telephone number and any of the following:
21 name, address or physical characteristics;
22 designation structure coupled to said interface
23 structure and said record structure for developing individual
24 designations for said individual callers and storing said
25 designations in said record structure, and
26 acknowledgement means for confirming caller designa-
27 tions as provided to said individual callers.

~~1~~ 171. An analysis control system for use with a
~~2~~ communication facility including remote terminals for
~~3~~ individual callers, wherein each of said remote terminals may
~~4~~ comprise a conventional telephone instrument including voice
~~5~~ communication means and digital input means in the form of an
~~6~~ array of alphabetic numeric buttons for providing data and
~~7~~ wherein said communication facility has a capability to

8 provide terminal digital data, for example, indicating the
9 calling number, said analysis control system comprising:
10 interface structure coupled to said communication
11 facility to interface said remote terminals for voice and
12 digital communication and including means to provide caller
13 data signals representative of data relating to said
14 individual callers developed by said remote terminals and said
15 terminal digital data;
16 analysis structure for processing said caller data
17 signals;
18 structure for controlling said analysis structure in
19 accordance with said terminal digital data; and
20 qualification structure to test caller data signals
21 specifying a consumable participation key as provided from
22 said remote terminals.

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cont'd

41 42
41 42. An analysis control system according to Claim
42 71 wherein said consumable participation key restricts extent
43 of access by each of said individual callers to a single use
44 entitlement.

43
43. An analysis control system for use with a
44 communication facility including remote terminals for
45 individual callers, wherein each of said remote terminals may
46 comprise a conventional telephone instrument including voice
47 communication means, and digital input means in the form of an

6 array of alphabetic numeric buttons for providing data, said
7 analysis control system comprising:
8 an interface structure coupled to said communication
9 facility to interface said remote terminals for voice and
10 digital communication, and including means to provide caller
11 data signals representative of data relating to said
12 individual callers developed by said remote terminals;
13 voice generator structure coupled through said
14 interface structure for actuating said remote terminals as to
15 provide vocal operating instructions to said individual
16 callers;
17 record structure, including memory and control
18 means, connected to receive said caller data signals from said
19 interface structure for initiating a file and storing caller
20 digital data relating to said individual callers provided from
21 said digital input means through said interface structure, and
22 including identification data in the form of callers'
23 telephone numbers and at least one other form of identifi-
24 cation data; and
25 qualification structure controlled by said record
26 structure for restricting the extent of access to said system
27 by individual callers in accordance with caller data
28 representing a consumable participation key for each
29 individual caller. #✓

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REMARKS

Claims 29-42 were pending in the case. By this preliminary amendment, Claims 36 and 40 have been amended to further clarify the invention and new Claims 43-73 have been introduced.

Claims 43-51 define additional features of the invention and by virtue of their dependency from present Claim 29, i.e., Claim 49 in co-pending parent application U.S. Serial No. 07/640,337, which the Examiner deemed is directed to allowable subject matter, are in condition for allowance. In particular, Claim 44 is supported by the specification at page 39, lines 12-14, Claim 45 at page 39, lines 14-15, Claim 46 at page 39, lines 6-8, Claim 47 at page 43, lines 17-20 and Claim 48 at page 43, lines 22-27. In addition, Claim 49 is supported by the specification at page 24, lines 30-31, page 40, lines 15-16 and page 35, line 15-16, and Claim 50 is supported by the specification at page 43, lines 22-27.

In an effort to consolidate all the allowable subject matter from the two parent applications, Claims 52-55 and 58-71 and 73 have been transferred from co-pending parent application U.S. Serial No. 07/335,923, of which U.S. Serial No. 07/640,337 is a continuation application. Claims 52-55 and 58-71 and 73 correspond to Claims 29-34, 36, 37, 46, 48, 50, 54, 88, 89 and 92-97 therein, which the Examiner, in the Office Action of September 18, 1991 (U.S. Serial No. 07/335,923), deemed would apparently be allowable if amended

to overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejections. In particular, the new claims introduced in the present application, i.e., Claims 52-55 and 58-71 and 73 correspond to Claims 29-34, 88, 37, 46, 92, 48, 50, 94, 54, 89, 93, 95, 96 and 97, respectively, in U.S. Serial No. 07/335,923, in the order indicated. Applicant intends to cancel Claims 29-34, 88, 37, 46, 92, 48, 50, 94, 54, 89, 93, 95, 96 and 97, respectively, in U.S. Serial No. 07/335,923 at the appropriate time.

In particular, in the Advisory Action of December 12, 1991, in parent application U.S. 07/335,923, the Examiner maintained the rejection of Claims 29-34, 88, 37, 46, 92, 48, 50, 94, 54, 89, 93, 95, 96 and 97 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. New Claims 52-55 and 58-71 and 73 have been amended to recite consistent terminology, for example, plural remote terminals and plural individual callers in the preambles of the respective claims as well as the bodies thereof. For example, Claim 52, which corresponds to Claim 29 of U.S. Serial No. 07/335,923, consistently recites remote --terminals-- instead of "remote terminal apparatus."

With respect to Claim 31 in U.S. Serial No. 07/335,923, in the Office Action of September 18, 1991, the Examiner indicated that "the purpose of the recited "check-off means" is unclear in the context. New Claim 54, which corresponds to Claim 31, has been amended to recite that the check-off means is --for restricting said extent of access by callers to a specific number of accesses--.

With respect to Claims 46 and 96 in U.S. Serial No. 07/335,923, in the Office Action of September 18, 1991, the Examiner indicated that the terms "directly" and "direct" are unsupported. New claims 62 and 71 corresponding to Claims 46 and 96, respectively, in co-pending U.S. Serial No. 07/335,923 have been amended to recite that the communication facility --has a capability to provide terminal digital data, for example, indicating the calling number--, thereby deleting the terms "directly" and "direct." Support for this recitation may be found on page 8, lines 32-35 and page 9, lines 1-2.

In addition, Claims 56-57 and 72 are additional dependent claims defining additional limitations.

Applicant respectfully requests consideration and allowance of now pending Claims 29-73.

Respectfully submitted,

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Docket No. 4646-101NA
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